

REMARKS

Claims 6, 12-17, 19 and 23-27 are canceled. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the canceled subject matter in one or more continuing applications. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, and 18 have been amended. The amendments are supported throughout the application as filed, e.g. by original claims 6, 12, and 19 now canceled; at p. 5, line 18-19; p. 6, line 3-5; Table II; and p. 3, line 7. No new matter has been added.

Upon entry of this amendment claims 1-5, 7-11, 18 and 20-22 will be pending.

Claim Objection

The Examiner objected to claims 1-12 and 18-22 for failing to recite the treatment of individuals "in need" of treatment for a wrinkle. The pending claims have been amended to recite the "in need" language as suggested by the examiner. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claims 1-6, 8-15 and 17-22 are rejected for failing to enable the treatment of a wrinkle comprising the administration of "any" NOS inhibitor. This rejection has been addressed by amending claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11 and 18 to recite a specific NOS inhibitor, namely L-NAME. The Examiner has recognized this subject matter to be enabled by the specification (Office Action p.3).

Claims 1-6, 8-15 and 17-22 are also rejected for failing to enable "prevention" of a wrinkle. The Examiner has apparently interpreted the term "preventing" to mean completely preventing the formation of any wrinkles. The specification supports a less stringent meaning of "preventing". The specification shows that the claimed methods prevent the appearance of some new wrinkles. That is, by showing that L-NAME reduces the number of wrinkles that appeared on a subject, the specification teaches that the claimed methods prevent the formation of some number of wrinkles. See, e.g., p. 5, line 18-19; p. 6, line 3-5; Table II; and p. 3, line 7.

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Nonetheless, in order to expedite prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to replace the term "preventing" with "reducing," thereby overcoming the rejection.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner objected to claims 1-5, 7-11, 18 and 20-22 as being unpatentable over Cerami et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,114, 323), which suggests the potential use of aminoguanidine to reduce the entrapment of glycosylated proteins in wrinkling skin.

Applicants have amended the claims to avoid reading on the use of aminoguanidine for the treatment of wrinkling skin, thereby obviating the rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

No fee is believed to be due. Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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